

What is claimed is:

1. A process for the preparation of atorvastatin in an amorphous form, which comprises:
  - a) providing a solution of atorvastatin in one or more solvents of a first type such that atorvastatin is freely soluble;
  - 5 b) providing a mixture of said atorvastatin solution with one or more solvents of a second type, in which atorvastatin is insoluble or very slightly soluble, such that atorvastatin precipitates;
  - c) separating the precipitate formed in step (b) from the mixture of solvents.
- 10 2. A process according to claim 1, further comprising: d) drying the amorphous product obtained.
3. A process according to claim 1, wherein said mixture in step (b) is provided by adding one or more solvents of the second type into the atorvastatin solution.
- 15 4. A process according to claim 1, wherein the mixture in step (b) is provided by adding the atorvastatin solution into one or more solvents of the second type.
5. A process according to claim 1, wherein step (a) comprises the two steps:
  - 20 i) providing a solution of atorvastatin in one or more solvents of the first type, and
  - ii) providing a mixture by adding one or more solvents of the second type into said solution of atorvastatin such that atorvastatin is still soluble in said mixture of solvents.
6. A process according to claim 1, wherein step (b) comprises the following two steps:
  - 25 i) providing a first mixture by adding one or more solvents of the second type into the solution of step (a) such that atorvastatin is still soluble, and
  - ii) additionally adding one or more solvents of the second type such that atorvastatin precipitates.
- 30 7. A process according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of atorvastatin in said one or more solvents of the first type is adjusted to a range of 0.1 to 150 g/l.

8. A process according to claim 1, wherein step (a) comprises the step of concentrating the atorvastatin solution to obtain a more concentrated solution.
- 5 9. A process according to claim 1, wherein said one or more solvents of the first type comprises at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of polar or chlorinated solvents.
10. A process according to claim 9, wherein said one or more solvents of the first type comprises at least one low molecular alcohol.
11. A process according to claim 10, wherein said low molecular alcohol is methanol and/or ethanol.
- 15 12. A process according to claim 9, wherein said polar solvent is an aprotic solvent.
13. A process according to claim 12, wherein said polar aprotic solvent is acetone.
14. A process according to claim 1, wherein said one or more solvents of the second type comprises at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of ether solvents and aliphatic solvents.
- 20 15. A process according to claim 14, wherein said solvent of the second type is diethyl ether.
- 25 16. A process according to claim 1, wherein the total amount of said solvents of the second type is at least 4 times higher than the total amount of said solvents of the first type.
17. A process according to claim 16, wherein the total amount of said solvents of the second type is 5 to 12 times higher than the total amount of said solvents of the first type.